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communicates with communication stations in its operating area. For the present invention, the primary/telecommunication station relays transmissions from the base station to a secondary station and conversely relays the signals from the secondary station back to the base station. These signals are formatted by the primary/telecommunication station so that both the base station and secondary station believe they are communicating directly with each other and not to the intermediary (primary/telecommunication station). This includes transmitting frame timing information from the primary/telecommunication station to the secondary station.

Schlosser et al. does not disclose such an arrangement. In Schlosser et al., the spacecraft assigns timeslots and provides timing information to each data terminal. The spacecraft in Schlosser is definitely not transparent to the users, since the data terminals are both directly synchronizing to and communicating with the space station and not to each other. These distinctions are clearly recited in the claims.

To illustrate using claim 1, claim 1 recites "a base station receiving from the primary station the TX speech information originally from a secondary space station in said respective transmission timeslot..." and "the secondary station having: a radio receiver... which receives from the primary station the TX speech information originating from the base station in said respective transmission timeslot..." Accordingly, the base station receives data from the secondary station over "said respective transmission timeslot" which is the timeslot that the secondary station transmitted the TX speech information. This differs from

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Schlosser et al., where Schlosser assigns each data terminal unique timeslots. Accordingly, the timeslot used for transmission from one data terminal is not used by the space station of Schlosser et al. to retransmit that information to another data terminal. Conversely, the claim recites "a base station... transmitting the RX speech information in said respective reception timeslot;..." and "the secondary station having:... a radio transmitter which transmits the RX speech information in said respective reception timeslot..." Accordingly, the same principal operates in the downlink.

Since the primary/telecommunication station is reformatting the data to effectively be transmitted in the same timeslot format to and from the base station and secondary station, the primary/secondary station is transparent to those stations. As recited in the claims "the primary station for transmissions between the base station and secondary station is transparent to the base station and secondary station,..." The secondary station would have the same timeslot assignment whether communicating directly with the base station or via the primary/telecommunication station. Furthermore, the primary/telecommunications station receives frame timing information and relays this to the secondary station so they may also be synchronized. The other independent claims 15 and 19 have analogous recitations. Since Schlosser et al. does not disclose such a scheme, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are allowable.

For the above reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that all the claims are allowable. If the Examiner does not believe that the claims are in condition for allowance,

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the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned. Reconsideration and entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Kaewell, Jr. et al.

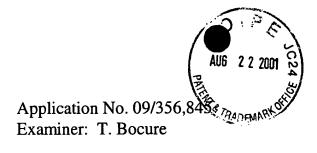
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37 CFR §1.121(b)(1)(iii) and (c)(1)(ii) SPECIFICATION AND CLAIM AMENDMENTS- MARKED UP VERSION

11. (Four Times Amended) A telecommunication system using wireless transmissions, the system comprising:

a primary station communicating with a plurality of stations, the primary station including a radio having a receiver and a transmitter wherein:

- (i) said transmitter transmits synchronization information including an assignment of n transmission fixed periodic time slots, where n is an integer greater than 1, and n reception fixed periodic time slots on a selected frequency;
- (ii) said radio transceives a duplex telephonic communication with the plurality of stations on the selected frequency wherein:
- (a) said transmitter transmits TX speech information to each of the plurality of stations in a respective one of the n transmission time slots on the selected frequency; and
- (b) said receiver receives RX speech information from each of the plurality of stations in one of the n reception time slots on the selected frequency; and the plurality of stations including:

a base station receiving from the primary station the TX speech information originated from a secondary station in said respective transmission time slot and transmitting the RX speech information in said respective reception time slot; and

the secondary station having:

- (i) a radio receiver which receives the synchronization information from the primary station and identifies the assignment of time slots and which receives from the primary station the TX speech information originating from the base station in said respective transmission time slot; and
- (ii) a radio transmitter which transmits the RX speech information in said respective reception time slot; and

wherein using the primary station for transmissions between the base station and secondary station is transparent to the base station and secondary station, and the primary station [or] and the secondary station itself detects a frame timing from received signals and aligns its transmitting frame timing accordingly.

- 15. (Four Times Amended) A telecommunication station for communicating with a base station and a secondary station using wireless transmissions, the station comprising: a transmitter which:
- (i) transmits synchronization information including the assignment of 2n fixed periodic time slots, where n is an integer greater than 1, on a selected frequency, n

fixed periodic transmit time slots for transmission from said telecommunication station and n fixed periodic reception time slots for reception by said telecommunication station; and

(ii) transmits TX information to the base station and the secondary station on the selected frequency in respective ones of said n assigned transmit slots; and

a receiver which receives RX information from the base station and the secondary station on the selected frequency in respective ones of said n assigned reception slots; and

wherein using the telecommunication station for communications between the base station and secondary station is transparent to the base station and secondary station, and the primary station [or] and the secondary station itself detects a frame timing from received signals and aligns its transmitting frame timing accordingly.

19. (Four Times Amended) A telecommunication station for communicating with a base station and a secondary station using wireless transmissions, the telecommunication station comprising:

a transmitter which:

(i) transmits synchronization information including the assignment of fixed periodic time slots on a selected frequency, at least two fixed periodic transmit time slots for transmission from said telecommunication station and at least two fixed periodic reception time slots for reception by said telecommunication station; and

- (ii) transmits a signal carrying information received from the base station on the selected frequency in a first assigned transmit slot and carrying information received from the secondary station on the selected frequency in a second assigned transmit slot; and a receiver which:
- (i) receives the information transmitted from the base station on the selected frequency in a first assigned reception slot; and
- (ii) receives the information transmitted from the secondary station on the selected frequency in a second assigned reception slot; and

wherein using the telecommunication station for communications between the base station and secondary station is transparent to the base station and secondary station, and the primary station [or] and the secondary station itself detects a frame timing from received signals and aligns its transmitting frame timing accordingly.